

§ 1316.90

the U.S. Attorney for the judicial district in which the proceeding for forfeiture is brought. He shall notify the petitioner of this action.

(Authority: 28 U.S.C. 509 and 510; 21 U.S.C. 871 and 881(d); Pub. L. 98-473, Pub. L. 98-573)

[48 FR 35088, Aug. 3, 1983, as amended at 49 FR 1178, Jan. 10, 1984; 49 FR 50643, Dec. 31, 1984; 56 FR 8686, Mar. 1, 1991; 62 FR 13970, Mar. 24, 1997]

Subpart F—Expedited Forfeiture Proceedings for Certain Property

AUTHORITY: 21 U.S.C. 822, 871, 872, 880, 881, 881-1, 883, 958, 965; 19 U.S.C. 1606, 1607, 1608, 1610, 1613, 1618; 28 U.S.C. 509, 510; Pub. L. No. 100-690, sec. 6079, 6080.

SOURCE: 54 FR 37610, Sept. 11, 1989, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1316.90 Purpose and scope.

(a) The following definitions, regulations, and criteria are designed to establish and implement procedures required by sections 6079 and 6080 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, Public Law No. 100-690 (102 Stat. 4181). They are intended to supplement existing law and procedures relative to the forfeiture of property under the identified statutory authority. The provisions of these regulations do not affect the existing legal and equitable rights and remedies of those with an interest in property seized for forfeiture, nor do these provisions relieve interested parties from their existing obligations and responsibilities in pursuing their interests through such courses of action. These regulations are intended to reflect the intent of Congress to minimize the adverse impact on those entitled to legal or equitable relief occasioned by the prolonged detention of property subject to forfeiture due to violations of law involving personal use quantities of controlled substances, and conveyances seized for drug-related offenses. The definition of personal use quantities of a controlled substance as contained herein is intended to distinguish between those quantities small in amount which are generally considered to be possessed for personal consumption and not for further distribution, and those larger quantities gen-

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erally considered to be subject to further distribution.

(b) In this regard, for violations involving the possession of personal use quantities of a controlled substance, section 6079(b)(2) requires either that administrative forfeiture be completed within 21 days of the seizure of the property, or alternatively, that procedures are established that provide a means by which an individual entitled to relief may initiate an expedited administrative review of the legal and factual basis of the seizure for forfeiture. Should an individual request relief pursuant to these regulations and be entitled to the return of the seized property, such property shall be returned immediately following that determination, and the administrative forfeiture process shall cease. Should the individual not be entitled to the return of the seized property, however, the administrative forfeiture of that property shall proceed. The owner may, in any event, obtain release of property pending the administrative forfeiture by submitting to the agency making the determination, property sufficient to preserve the government's vested interest for purposes of the administrative forfeiture.

(c) Section 6080 requires a similar expedited review by the Attorney General or his representative in those instances where a conveyance is being forfeited in a civil judicial proceeding following its seizure for a drug-related offense.

§ 1316.91 Definitions.

As used in this subpart, the following terms shall have the meanings specified:

(a) The term *Appraised Value* means the estimated domestic price at the time of seizure at which such or similar property is freely offered for sale.

(b) The term *Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel* means a vessel that:

(1) Commercially engages in the catching, taking, or harvesting of fish or an activity that can reasonably be expected to result in the catching, taking, or harvesting of fish;

(2) Commercially prepares fish or fish products other than by gutting, decapitating, gilling, skinning, shucking, icing, freezing, or brine chilling; or